

Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-10

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DRAFTED BY AF/S-KMCCORMICK:LFS
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY GABORONE
AMEMBASSY QUITO

UNCLAS STATE 013828

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OGEN, AMED

SUBJECT: MEDICAL TREATMENT FOR ECUADOREAN PASSENGER
INJURED IN EMBASSY GABORONE AUTO ACCIDENT

REFS: (A) GABORONE 107 (NOTAL), (B) HOOVER/MCCORMICK

TELECON 1/16/78

1. WE UNDERSTAND THAT MAGDALENA COLOMA, ECUADOREAN PASSENGER CRITICALLY INJURED IN EMBASSY GABORONE AUTO ACCIDENT NIGHT OF JANUARY 15-16 AND EVACUATED TO SOUTH AFRICA FOR TREATMENT, HAS BEEN ADMITTED TO EUGENE MARAIS HOSPITAL IN PRETORIA (755-431). SINCE THERE IS NO ECUADOREAN CONSULAR REPRESENTATION IN RSA, DEPARTMENT CONTACTED ECUADOREAN EMBASSY HERE TO INFORM FAMILY AND TO SUGGEST THEY FORESTALL ANY POSSIBLE DIFFICULTIES ARISING OUT OF MISS COLOMA'S INABILITY TO GUARANTEE PAYMENT BY ASSURING HOSPITAL THAT FAMILY WOULD COVER BILLS. (FYI UNCLASSIFIED

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MISS COLOMA, HOUSE GUEST OF EMBASSY GABORONE POLOFF HOOVER, IS OFFICIAL OF INTERAMERICAN BANK IN QUITO AND FAMILY FRIEND OF SENIOR ECUADOREAN MFA OFFICIALS INCLUDING AMBASSADOR SANCHEZ, FORMER ENVOY TO US.)

2. ECUADOREAN CHARGE IN WASHINGTON, ON INSTRUCTIONS FROM HIS UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE IN QUITO, HAS ASKED

DEPARTMENT TO CONVEY TO EMBASSY PRETORIA AND HOSPITAL THE FAMILY'S ASSURANCES THAT ALL COSTS WILL BE COVERED. MISS COLOMA'S INTER-AMERICAN BANK INSURANCE WILL COVER COSTS UP TO DOLS 5000 AND FAMILY ASSUMES RESPONSIBILITY FOR ALL ADDITIONAL COSTS. HE ASKS THAT HOSPITAL SEND ALL BILLS AND RELATED STATEMENTS IN MISS COLOMA'S NAME TO AMBASSADOR GUSTAVO YCAZA, EMBASSY OF ECUADOR, 2535 15TH ST, NW, WASHINGTON, DC 20009.

3. REQUEST PRETORIA INFO QUITO ON ALL CABLES REGARDING THIS CASE AS ECUADOREANS ALSO ASKED TO BE KEPT INFORMED OF ANY INFORMATION WHICH BECOMES AVAILABLE ON MISS COLOMA'S CONDITION. CHRISTOPHER

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